

Abstract

A system for transferring a data stream comprising data packets separated by non-packet words from a first clock domain to a second clock domain includes an elasticity buffer into which the data stream is written in a cyclic sequence under the control of the clock frequency in the first clock domain and from which the data stream is read out in a cyclic sequence under the control of the clock frequency in the second domain. The two sequences are monitored to provide an anticipatory signal indicating that the reading sequence approaches proximity to the writing sequence. A non-packet word is inserted into the data stream in the first domain. In the second clock domain the existence of the inserted non-packet word is detected and the buffer is caused to advance the reading cycle thereby to discard the said inserted non-packet word.

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